



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Office of the Director
Reston, Virginia 20192

*copies to
Bennie, Barts
Denny Fenn*

MEMORANDUM

JAN 06 1998

To: Secretary

Through: Patricia J. Beneke *Patricia J. Beneke*
Assistant Secretary--Water and Science

From: Mark Schaefer *MS*
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

Subject: USGS CALFED Science Support Initiative

*Mark -
GOOD!
Thanks
BB*

In response to your request to Denny Fenn in November, we are pleased to transmit to you the Executive Summary of a draft proposal that would augment the CALFED science support program. This draft proposal was prepared by a multidisciplinary team of USGS scientists that conferred with key local officials, including key staff of CALFED, other agencies, and with Water and Science's David Cottingham.

The elements of this draft proposal were presented to the CALFED Management Team on December 15 and to the CALFED Policy Team on December 19. The USGS representatives sit on both teams, as well as many other CALFED support groups. The draft proposal was modified as a result of these meetings. Both the Management and Policy Teams acknowledge the need for a strong scientifically based program that includes conceptual models, extensive monitoring, and adaptive management techniques. At the December 19 meeting, the Policy Team asked the USGS to collaborate with the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) to develop a single proposal for monitoring protocols, ecological performance measures, and indicators of ecosystem health.

The IEP is a long-term monitoring and studies program that is a cooperative effort among the USGS, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Game, and California State Water Resources Control Board. The IEP coordinates an existing monitoring and data-sharing program and is seen by the CALFED Program to be its primary collaborative body for scientific advice. Senior members of the Interagency Program were involved in developing this proposal, resulting in very successful collaboration between the USGS and IEP.

Based on the discussions at the CALFED Policy Team meeting, we are confident that this proposal increases the awareness of what it will take to meet the scientific objectives of this comprehensive restoration program and help lay the foundation for IEP agencies to improve